

**Celebration  
of Distinction**  
HONORING EXCELLENCE  
AT GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY



## Alumnus of the Year Award

**Senator Saddam Azlan Salim**  
**BS Public Administration '12 | MPA '15**

Senator Saddam Azlan Salim, BS Public Administration '12, MPA '15, is a Bangladeshi American immigrant who came to this country when he was just 10 years old. He was fleeing multiple climate catastrophes of flood and drought. After experiencing homelessness shortly after moving to the United States, his family moved to Fairfax County. He attended Falls Church High School and then George Mason University, where he got his bachelor's and master's degrees in public administration. He has worked in federal financial management and consulting for more than seven years. In November 2023, he was elected to the Virginia Senate on a promise to fight for Virginia's future.